

STATE OF DELAWARE OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 7, 2007 CONTACT: Andrea Summers Community Relations Officer 302-744-2743

33 Arrested for DUI on Cinco de Mayo

Dover – Cinco de Mayo this year (Saturday May 5th) was not a quiet one for Delaware police officers who made 33 DUI arrests statewide during checkpoints and roving patrols. The enforcement activities, coordinated by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, are part of the year-round *Checkpoint Strikeforce* campaign.

While the NcCo DUI Task Force made the greatest number of DUI arrests (17) at their Delaware Avenue checkpoint in Newark, Delaware State Police Troop 3 and the Sussex County DUI Task Force had some unexpected activity at theirs. Toward the end of DSP Troop 3's checkpoint in Dover, a suspected drug-impaired driver caused a three-vehicle personal injury collision when he rear-ended the car in front of him, pushing that vehicle into a third. Then at the Sussex County Task Force's checkpoint in Georgetown, a vehicle fled the checkpoint, and officers who pursued him discovered the driver was wanted and was driving on a suspended license.

In addition to the 33 DUI arrests made at both checkpoints and on roving patrols officers made 6 arrests for underage drinking violations, 11 drug arrests, 6 felony arrests, apprehended 6 wanted individuals and issued 148 citations for other traffic violations.

Since January 1st of this year, 18 (or 39%) of Delaware's traffic deaths have been alcohol-related. The following police agencies participated in Cinquo de Mayo enforcement: the New Castle, Kent and Sussex County DUI Task Forces, the Delaware State Police Troops 2,3,5,7 and 9, and the Millsboro Police.